

August 26, 2009

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Washington, DC) Rep. Luis V. Gutierrez (D-IL), Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Immigration Taskforce, released the following statement regarding Senator Kennedy's passing:

"Senator Kennedy will always be a true American hero. Throughout his life, he took on the hard issues -- the issues that were not always politically popular -- and the issues that would define the very direction of this country. Though he is truly an irreplaceable leader, his example is something we should all aspire to by honoring his legacy and pursuing the change he envisioned for America. Senator Kennedy fought for a country that treated all people with humanity, fairness and equality. He fought for a country that honored a proud tradition of immigrants seeking the American Dream. He fought for people regardless of race, religion, or national origin, and he fought for comprehensive immigration reform. His work lives on in the halls of Congress and across our nation, wherever our immigrant families are crying out for a system that is just. When at last we sign comprehensive immigration reform into law, his presence will be deeply felt."

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